



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Las Cruces District Office
1800 Marquess Street
Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005
www.blm.gov/nm



In Reply Refer To:
NMNM 066392
NMNM 131088
1792 (L0310)

Dear Interested Party:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Las Cruces District Office and Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) have prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) to analyze the effects of issuing amendments to two rights-of-way (ROWs) for road improvements to Dripping Springs Road and Baylor Canyon Road.

Under the authority of Title V of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, Doña Ana County submitted two separate right-of-way (ROW) applications to upgrade and realign portions of Dripping Springs Road and Baylor Canyon Road, located east of Las Cruces, New Mexico. Approximately 4.9 miles of combined roadway improvements are proposed, including roadway paving, drainage improvements, and, where possible, straightening curves. Also proposed is realignment of curves at a windmill location along Baylor Canyon Road and at the intersection of Dripping Springs and Baylor Canyon Roads. The roads would be constructed for all-weather/year-round use.

On Tuesday, May 12, at 6:00 p.m., the BLM, FHWA and Doña Ana County will host a public workshop for the Dripping Springs Road/Baylor Canyon Road Improvement Project at the New Mexico Farm & Ranch Heritage Museum in the Organ View Terrace, 4100 Dripping Springs Road, Las Cruces, New Mexico. The workshop will give the agencies and the public the opportunity to discuss the process of how the EA was developed using public scoping comments and then analyzed to determine impacts. The workshop will also provide the public an opportunity to submit comments.

The EA (DOI-BLM-NM-L000-2014-0164-EA) is posted on BLM's website at www.blm.gov/nm/lascruces. The EA is also available for review at the BLM Las Cruces District Office, the Thomas Branigan Memorial Library and Branson Library at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, New Mexico and the New Mexico State Library in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Comments on the project must be submitted by May 26, 2015. There are several ways in which you can submit your comments on the proposed project:

- File your comments electronically by sending them to:
BLM_NM_LCDO_Comments@blm.gov. Please include "Dripping Springs Road/Baylor Canyon Road Improvement Project EA Comments" in the subject line of your email.

- Mail your comments to: “Dripping Springs Road/Baylor Canyon Road Improvement Project”, BLM Las Cruces District Office, ATTN: Frances Martinez, 1800 Marquess Street, Las Cruces, New Mexico 88005.

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

If you have any questions about this Project or require a hard copy or a CD, please contact Frances Martinez, Realty Specialist, at (575) 525-4385. We appreciate your participation in this proposed Project.

Sincerely,

/s/ Bill Childress

Bill Childress
District Manager